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CYCLOPEDIA OF LAW AND PROCEDURE. Edited by William Mack and Howard P. Nash. Vol. VIII. New York: The American Law Book Company. London: Butterworth & Co. 1903. pp. 1145. 4to.

This volume covers topics from "Commercial Paper [XIV]" to "Contemporaneous." The discussion of Constitutional Law, by George F. Tucker, is the principal article, embracing about one-third of the volume. In this article the provision against impairing the obligation of contracts is treated with especial fullness. The distribution of powers among the various departments of government and the provision as to due process of law are also given a prominent place in the discussion. The commerce clause, taxation, and eminent domain are left for treatment elsewhere. Other branches of the subject are discussed with appropriate fullness. The last half of the article on Commercial Paper, dealing with the subject of "Actions," forms a large part of this volume. The discussion deals principally with procedure and treats questions of practice in considerable detail. The other subjects treated at greatest length are "Compositions with Creditors" and "Conspiracy." The collection of labor cases in the latter is especially timely.

The list of subjects chosen for treatment in this volume is well selected and fairly complete. It is to be regretted that there is no general discussion of the principles of the Conflict of Laws. This subject is very inadequately treated by modern writers, and a full collection of recent authorities would be most welcome. All the articles follow the general method of previous volumes.

THE TARIFF PROBLEM. By W. J. Ashley, Professor of Commerce in the University of Birmingham. London: P. S. King & Sons. 1903. pp. viii, 210. 16mo.

A discussion of the tariff problem by the Professor of Commerce in the University of Birmingham is, of course, timely. This short volume by Mr. Ashley should prove of interest to a large circle of readers. It is well and interestingly written; and is made — purposely no doubt — sufficiently simple to be read widely and with understanding even by those who have not had special training in the science of Political Economy. Though it is adapted to popular reading, it is at the same time scholarly. All statements and deductions are shown to be based upon real evidence.

The book contains a statement of the theory of state control in general, and of the policy of free imports as laid down by the classic English school of Political Economy; and then a discussion of those principles and suggestions for modifications which must be made in view of altered conditions, — particularly the growth of fixed capital with its attendant policy of "dumping" excess product abroad at low figures in times of domestic depression.

Mr. Ashley endeavors to show the need of Great Britain for some sort of a protective tariff, and advocates particularly the adoption of a policy of duties giving preferences to the British colonies. He makes out a strong case for protection, — at least for England at this time.

In the gradual creation of a system of imperial interdependence, he sees the brightest future for England; and he believes that the adoption of an inter-imperial preferential tariff would be one of the most important steps toward knitting the empire together.